



Review

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North and South America have now come of age, but Dr. Eliot G. Mears, professor of international trade in the Stanford Graduate School of Business, clearly shows in his new volume how inextricably interblent are the destinies of the sister republics of the two continents due to cultural, geographic, and natural resource considerations.

The completion of the Panama Canal was a belated but epic event in binding the peoples of the two continents more closely together: "Four hundred years elapsed from the time Balboa first glimpsed the Pacific and claimed its discovery for Spain before that great ocean was joined to the Atlantic waterway across the Isthmus between the two continents of the New World," writes Dr. Mears. The old isolation between Pacific Coast points and the South American seaboard was now at an end. Even a century earlier, in 1815, Bolívar had envisioned and written of the golden age in Pan American relations when the engineering cunning of man would pierce the Isthmus with a canal. A considerable portion of the book is devoted to the "unprecedented social, political, and economic changes" unleashed by the construction of this continental artery, with special reference to United States and Hispanic America.

North and South America possess in all only seventeen "land gateways" to the Pacific Ocean: United States and Canada possess nine of them, Central and South America, eight. With increasing trade relations with Latin America comes added interest in its culture. The study of the Spanish language in America becomes yearly more vital.

"The trade of the Americas is a future prize," emphasizes Dr. Mears. "Proximity, which has been an important factor in past and present developments, will prove to be of even larger importance in the future. The surplus products of west-coast Canada are largely competitive with products of the United States west coast, while the commerce between the Pacific Coast states and South America is certain to be on a more reciprocal basis. The excellent opportunities afforded for the investment of surplus capital in the North, South, and Central Americas offer constructive and sure potentialities for expansion."

The book is well documented with tables showing data as to commerce between the Pacific Coast ports of United States and Central and South America. A valuable addition to any Hispanic-American library.

CEDRIC LARSON

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University of New Mexico Folklore and Linguistic Publications, 1934.

In the 1934 issues of February 15 and June 15 of the *University of New Mexico Bulletin*, Professor Arthur Campa of that institution has published six New Mexico Spanish religious dramas which he classifies into two cycles. The first one of these cycles contains two *autos*, *Adán y Eva* and *Cáin y Abel*, while the second one consists of four, *Coloquio de*

San José, Coloquio de pastores, Auto de Los Reyes Magos, and El Niño Perdido.

In the introduction to the first cycle, Professor Campa gives an interesting summary of the historical background for these plays. He makes note of a number of important historical facts dating as far back as the period of discovery and conquest of the New World. His notes, however, are scanty and, at times, somewhat inadequate. In preparing the manuscript for publication, Professor Campa has, in some cases, apparently changed the language to make it conform to modern Spanish orthography or to make the meaning clearer. It is to be regretted that he has made such changes without letting us know how the original manuscript reads. These manuscripts, in their original form, are valuable linguistic documents, but are of little or no linguistic worth when the language is altered. To illustrate, the editor, for example, commenting on the first four lines of *El Niño Perdido*,

Atención, señor de lustre
Que ya se comienza el auto
En que obro el niño Jesús
Aun descuido con cuidado.

has the following note: "Various folklorists have been unable to interpret this badly garbled quatrain. Mine is an additional possibility." Obviously, Professor Campa has changed the language here, but he does not let us know how the original manuscript reads, which I think any intelligent reader would like to know. It would be of interest to know, also, how the other folklorists that Professor Campa has in mind interpreted the quatrain. Incidentally, I happen to have a manuscript of this same play which I obtained in New Mexico several years ago and in it the quatrain reads as follows:

Atencion, senado ilustre,
que ya se comienza el auto
en que obro el niño Jesus
un descuido y con cuidado.

I have had access, also, to another manuscript in Dr. Espinosa's possession which reads as follows:

Hatencion seno delustre
que lla se comiensa el auto
en que obro el niño Jesus
aun descuido y con cuidado.

Since the expression *señor de lustre* is the only thing that makes the quatrain in Professor Campa's publication different from the two manuscripts I consulted, I presume that this expression is Professor Campa's "additional possibility." What Professor Campa's original manuscript had in place of *señor de lustre*, we can only conjecture. However, if it had *senado*

ilustre, he could well have kept it, for it makes better sense than either *señor de lustre* or *seno delustre*. According to the *Diccionario Enciclopédico Hispano-Americano* (Montaner y Simón, editores, Barcelona, 1887-98), the word *senado* is used referring to a gathering of persons who command respect ("*cualquier junta o concurrencia de personas graves y respetables*"). It is in this sense, although perhaps in a somewhat flattering manner, that the word was used here as elsewhere in the closing lines of hundreds of Golden Age plays, among them the following:

Senado ilustre y discreto,
Si no ayudaren las obras,
Ayúdennos los deseos.

Siempre ayuda la verdad,
Juan Ruiz de Alarcón.

Aquí acaba,
senado, aquella tragedia
del castigo sin venganza
que, siendo en Ytalia asombro
oy es exemplo en España.

El castigo sin venganza,
Lope de Vega.

Other evidences of lack of scholarly exactness are notes 128 and 133 which concern the same play, to which, by the way, the editor gives only ten notes. Note 128 reads: "Probably a garbled proper name referring to a mountain." This refers to the line, "*Aquel Mongibel nevado*." *Mongibel* is the Sicilian name for Mount Etna (*Enciclopedia universal ilustrada europeo-americana*, Espasa-Calpe, Madrid). In note 133, for the line, "*Entre bobos anda el juego*," the editor informs us that this is the "title of one of the plays of Rojas Zorrilla." This is true but not sufficient. The above line occurs in the play that bears that name but it is also a saying that existed before the time of Rojas Zorrilla. The editor's note would have been more to the point if he had explained the meaning of the saying. The above slips and others, which it is needless to mention here, are due, in my opinion, to too much haste in publishing the above folklore material.

In the field of linguistics, Dr. F. M. Kercheville gives us the results of some of his findings in an article entitled "A Preliminary Glossary of New Mexican Spanish" which appeared on June 15, 1934, in the same publication as the above New Mexican plays. While Dr. Kercheville offers us a large amount of interesting material, I think his study would have been of more scholarly value if he had eliminated much unnecessary duplication of material published by the late Dr. Hills of the University of California and Dr. Espinosa of Stanford University. At least he could have indicated to what extent he was duplicating some of their work. On page 33 of his article, for example, he could have pointed out that such words as *abuja*,

abujero, acabao, acábemos, acostalos, aguao, aigre, aigrio, ajuego, alcojol, alfarfa, algotha, almirado, alvertir, anio, entonces, arbolera, arrempujar, asina, or the linguistic problems involved in them, had already been discussed by Dr. Hills or Dr. Espinosa. We also get the impression from Dr. Kercheville's article that it was prepared rather hastily and that he failed to utilize his bibliography advantageously. If he had done so, perhaps he would have eliminated from the same page the words *hanega*, which he spells without the "h," and *antier*. Both of these words are found in the dictionary of the Spanish Academy, which Dr. Kercheville includes in his bibliography. A greater familiarity with Menéndez Pidal's *Manual de gramática histórica española*, which he also mentions, would likewise have enabled him to classify some of his material more adequately, and he would thus have put such forms as *mesmo, ñudo, truje, vide, and vido* under the heading of Archaic or Obsolete Words rather than under that of Words Which Suffer Phonetic Changes. *Mesmo* and *trujo* he classifies under both headings. None of these words have suffered any changes whatever since the XVIth century.

The article by George E. McSpadden, "Some Semantic and Philological Facts of the Spanish Spoken in Chililí, New Mexico," which appeared in the same number as the preceding article, is well done. In this article the writer records in a scholarly manner a number of "semantic and philological facts" which he discovered during a several months' stay in an isolated town near Albuquerque. The University of New Mexico should encourage more studies of this type, studies in which scholarly thoroughness rather than mass production is the principal aim.

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A Preliminary Glossary of New Mexican Spanish, compilado por el Dr. F. M. KERCHEVILLE, y publicado por University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, 1934.

Este glosario está dividido en seis partes, a saber: Parte I, Expresiones familiares con palabras peculiares o de uso regional; Parte II, Palabras que sufren cambios fonéticos; Parte III, Palabras arcaicas o anticuadas; Parte IV, Palabras de origen indio; Parte V, Mejicanismos empleados en Nuevo Méjico; y Parte VI, Palabras y expresiones inglesas hispanizadas.

En su introducción, el Dr. Kercheville dice que es posible que muchas de las palabras incluídas como nuevo-mejicanismos existan en otros países de la América española, pero que la falta de diccionarios de regionalismos impide constatarlos por ahora. Luego añade que muchas de estas palabras han adquirido significados distintos de los que castizamente tienen en español, obedeciendo a las necesidades del medio ambiente en que se desarrollan. Pero estas declaraciones no le salvan al Dr. Kercheville, ya que en un diccionario tan popular como "El Pequeño Larousse Ilustrado" se